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# District of Columbia Society of Mayflower Descendants

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

INSTRUCTION TO APPLICANTS

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Washington, D. C.

1899

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# OFFICERS

## Governor

William Lowrey Marsh

## Deputy Governor

Dr. Marcus Benjamin

## Captain

William Park Metcalf

## Elder

Rev. John Louis Ewell, D.D.

## Secretary

Harry Weston Van Dyke,
609 Fourteenth Street, N. W.

## Treasurer

Thomas Blagden,
1505 Pennsylvania Avenue

## Historian

Algernon Aikin Aspinwall

## Surgeon

George Lyman Fox, M.D.

## Seven Assistants

Mrs. Helen Sybil (Avery) Stetson
Miss Hattie Lucinda Alden
Miss Isabel Sargent Chamberlin
Thomas Snell Hopkins
Frank Birge Smith
Edwin Allston Hill
William Wallace Case

# COMMITTEES

Confirmed by Board of Assistants, April 11, 1899

## Membership

THOMAS SNELL HOPKINS, *Chairman*
WILLIAM WALLACE CASE, *Secretary*,
207 New Jersey Avenue, N. W.
JEROME FLETCHER JOHNSON
FRANK BIRGE SMITH
EDWIN ALLSTON HILL

## Publication

HARRY WESTON VAN DYKE, *Chairman*
MRS. JANE S. (OWEN) KEIM
MISS HATTIE L. ALDEN

## Auditing

WILLIAM PARK METCALF, *Chairman*
WILLIAM CONGDON GORHAM
SHERBURNE GILLETTE HOPKINS

## Room and Property

REV. JOHN LOUIS EWELL, *Chairman*
NATHANIEL EMMONS ROBINSON
ALONZO HOWARD CLARK
THOMAS BLAGDEN
ALGERNON AIKIN ASPINWALL

## Entertainment

DR. MARCUS BENJAMIN, *Chairman*
HENRY PETER RENOUF HOLT
MRS. HELEN SYBIL (AVERY) STETSON
MISS EMILY ELIZA ROBINSON
MISS ISABEL SARGENT CHAMBERLIN

## Press (Select)

MISS HATTIE L. ALDEN, *Chairman*
EDWIN ALLSTON HILL
MISS ISABEL SARGENT CHAMBERLIN

# MEMBERSHIP

## Charter Members

| STATE NO. | GENERAL NO. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 267 | William Lowrey Marsh, | Washington, | D. C. |
| 2 | 312 | William Wallace Case, | " | " |
| 3 | 486 | Nathaniel Emmons Robinson, | " | " |
| 4 | 377 | Hattie Lucinda Alden, | " | " |
| 5 | 66 | Sherburne Gillette Hopkins, | " | " |
| 6 | 65 | Thomas Snell Hopkins, | " | " |
| 7 | 337 | William Francis Alden (deceased), | " | " |
| 8 | 311 | James Bowen Johnson (deceased), | " | " |
| 9 | 223 | Henry Peter Renouf Holt, | " | " |
| 10 | 916 | Algernon Aikin Aspinwall | " | " |
| 11 | 915 | Isabel Sargent Chamberlin, | " | " |
| 12 | 785 | Mary Lyon Robinson, | " | " |
| 13 | 784 | Emily Eliza Robinson, | " | " |
| 14 | 57 | Dr. Marcus Benjamin, | " | " |
| 15 | 1000 | Rev. John Louis Ewell, D.D., | " | " |
| 16 | 115 | George Congdon Gorham, | " | " |
| 17 | 108 | Frank Birge Smith, | " | " |
| 18 | 75 | Alonzo Howard Clark, | " | " |
| 19 | 105 | Harry Weston Van Dyke, | " | " |
| 20 | 320 | William Park Metcalf, | " | " |
| 21 | 697 | Edwin Allston Hill, | " | " |
| 22 | 982 | Ellen Hamilton Smith, | " | " |
| 23 | 680 | Helen Sybil (Avery) Stetson, (Mrs. George Rochford Stetson) | " | " |
| 24 | 849 | Jane S. (Owen) Keim, (Mrs. de B. Randolph Keim) | " | " |
| 25 | 754 | Thomas Blagden, | " | " |
| 26 | 1014 | Charles Lyon Sturtevant, | " | " |

| STATE NO. | GENERAL NO. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 27 | 1145 | George Lyman Fox, M.D., | Washington, D. C. |
| 28 | 1147 | Joseph Edward Bradford, | " " |
| 29 | 1149 | Priscilla Le Baron (Goldsborough) Slaughter, (Mrs. William Dennis Slaughter) | " " |
| 30 | 1151 | William Humphrey Aspinwall, | Sistersville, W. Va. |
| 31 | 1172 | Mary Elizabeth Terry, | Washington, D. C. |
| 32 | 1173 | James Oscar Pierce, | Minneapolis, Minn. |
| 33 | 1190 | Mary Louisa Peterson, | Janesville, Wis. |
| 34 | 1191 | Rev. Caleb Rochford Stetson, | Washington, D. C. |
| 35 | 1259 | Susan Hunt (Stetson) Fletcher, (Mrs. Frank Friday Fletcher) | " " |
| 36 | 1260 | Carrie Stetson (Avery) Claflin, (Mrs. William Henry Claflin), | Boston, Mass. |
| 37 | 1290 | Cornelia (Hubbard) Hascy, (Mrs. Oscar Lawrence Hascy) | Albany, N. Y. |
| 38 | 1292 | Marion Oscar Barnes, | Colorado Springs, Col. |
| 39 | 1294 | Rosa (Wright) Smith, (Mrs. F. Sherman Smith) | Washington, D. C. |
| 40 | 1296 | George Rochford Stetson, | " " |
| 41 | 1298 | Jerome Fletcher Johnson, | " " |
| 42 | 1300 | Solomon Elmer Faunce, | " " |
| 43 | 1302 | Eleanor (Fuller) Martin, (Mrs. Medad Chattman Martin) | " " |
| 44 | 1336 | Sarah Patterson (Hieskell) Williamson, (Mrs. Irving Williamson) | " " |
| 45 | 1337 | Emma Josephine (Parker) Karr, (Mrs. William Wesley Karr) | " " |
| 46 | 1338 | Carlie Emeline Marsh, | " " |
| 47 | 1339 | Benjamin Prentis Watrous, | " " |
| 48 | 1350 | Cornelia (Hascy) Young, (Mrs. Horace G. Young) | Albany, N. Y. |

# Instructions to Applicants

Every descendant, over eighteen years of age, of any passenger on the *Mayflower* on the voyage which ended at Plymouth, in December, 1620, is eligible to membership.

Applicants for membership must be nominated and seconded by two members of the Society, on "Preliminary Application" blanks furnished by the Secretary. **These Preliminary Blanks are issued only on request of members.**

When returned to the Secretary, the application is submitted to the Membership Committee, who investigate the social and moral standing of the applicant. If the action of the Committee is favorable, the Secretary notifies the applicant of its approval, and furnishes pedigree blanks upon which must be set out in detail each generation in descent from the *Mayflower* passenger. Every step in the pedigree must be proved by complete references to town histories or other published works recognized by the Society as authoritative, giving in each instance the volume and page quoted; or by filing certified copies of town or church records, tombstone inscriptions or other satisfactory evidence; no descent will be recognized if based, in any detail, upon mere family or local tradition.

The pedigree blanks must be filled out in duplicate and sworn to before a notary public or other competent officer, and filed with the Secretary.

After examination and approval by the Historian and Historian-General, the Pedigree Blanks are referred to the Board of Assistants and voted upon by secret ballot, two negative votes rejecting a candidate.

The Secretary will then notify the candidate of his election, and if the entrance fee and dues are not paid

within thirty days after the notification, then the election shall be void. Entrance fee, $5.00; annual dues, $2.00, payable in advance on the first of January of each year. Candidates elected during the first quarter of any year shall be required to pay the full amount of the dues for that year; those elected during second quarter, $1.50; those elected during third quarter, $1.00, and those elected during fourth quarter, $0.50. Every approval by the Membership Committee shall be void unless the final pedigree paper shall be returned, properly executed, within six months after same shall have been sent to applicant.

Engrossed certificates of membership, insignia, rosette buttons and rosette pins can be secured upon application to Secretary. Certificates, $3.00; insignia, $12.00; rosette buttons and pins, $0.25.

If applicant is descended from more than one *Mayflower* Ancestor, one name only should be used in making application. Blanks for proof of additional lines of eligibility will be furnished by the Secretary after election to membership. These supplemental blanks must be executed in same manner as originals.

The Society is accumulating a library of books and papers of historical and genealogical interest, relating to the Pilgrims, for ready reference by members desiring to prove lines of descent and for their general information. The Secretary would be glad to receive donations of published or manuscript genealogies, town or State histories, memoranda of tombstone inscriptions, town or church records, or any other matter of interest or value in this connection.

H. W. VAN DYKE, *Secretary*,
609 Fourteenth Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

# Constitution

## ARTICLE I

### NAME

The name of this Society shall be the "SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA."

## ARTICLE II

### OBJECT

The object of this Society is to perpetuate the memory of the band of Pilgrims, passengers on the *Mayflower*, who landed at Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts, December 20, 1620; to preserve their records, their history and all facts relating to them, their ancestors and their posterity.

Their acts and example have been instrumental in the establishment of civil and religious liberty throughout this land. Their faith in God, their constancy of purpose under severe trials, and their fortitude under privations, entitle them to the veneration of mankind and form an example worthy of emulation for all time.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBERSHIP

Every lineal descendant over eighteen years of age, of any passenger on the *Mayflower* on the voyage which ended at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in December, 1620, shall be eligible to membership in this Society. Each candidate for membership shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Society, and elected at a regular meeting of the Board of Assistants.

## ARTICLE IV

### OFFICERS

The officers of this Society shall be a Governor, Deputy Governor, Captain, Elder, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian

and Surgeon, to be elected by a majority vote. These officers, together with seven other members elected for that purpose by a plurality vote by ballot at the annual meeting of the Society, shall constitute a Board of Assistants and shall serve for one year, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Their duties, powers and privileges shall be regulated by the by-laws so long as they are consistent with this Constitution ; and any vacancies occasioned by death or resignation may be filled by the Board of Assistants for the unexpired term.

## ARTICLE V

### MEETINGS

The annual meeting of this Society shall be held in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, on the twenty-first day of November in each year, the anniversary of the arrival of the *Mayflower* at Provincetown Harbor. In addition to the annual meeting, regular meetings shall be held on the second Tuesday in February, April and October, in each year, and special meetings shall be held upon the written request of ten members, or by vote of the Board of Assistants.

The Board of Assistants shall meet on the second Tuesday of each month, except the months of June, July and August, and special meetings of the Board shall be held upon the written request of three of its members, or at the call of the Governor.

Ten members shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Society for the transaction of business. At all meetings of the Board of Assistants, five members shall constitute a quorum.

## ARTICLE VI

### BY-LAWS

The Society shall have power to ordain, establish, alter and repeal by-laws, rules and regulations for its government.

## ARTICLE VII

### SEAL

The seal of the Society shall contain a representation of a sailing vessel of the seventeenth century and around it the name of the Society and the words "Plymouth, 1620," and "District of Columbia, 1898."

## ARTICLE VIII

### AMENDMENTS

Any proposed amendment to this Constitution must be presented in writing at a regular meeting of the Society, and shall be read and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary shall send out with the notice of the next meeting a copy of all such proposed amendments, with a statement that the same are to be acted upon at said meeting, and a two-thirds vote of all the members present at such meeting shall be required for the adoption of any amendment.

# By-Laws

## ARTICLE I

### MEMBERSHIP

Application for membership in this Society shall be made in writing and shall be endorsed by two members of the Society, and shall be approved by the Committee on Membership before the application blanks shall be issued. Each applicant shall then be required to give in detail, upon the blanks furnished, the proofs of eligibility with complete references to the authorities quoted, all of which shall be sworn to. Such application shall then be referred to the Historian of the Society, and upon his report that he has found the pedigree papers to be correct, and that the Historian-General has approved the same, they shall be referred to the Board of Assistants, who shall vote upon the same. Two negative votes shall act as a rejection of the candidate. The Secretary shall then notify the candidate of his election, and if the entrance fee and the dues for the current year are not paid within thirty days after the notification of election, then the election shall be void. Every approval by the Committee on Membership shall be void unless the final pedigree papers shall be returned properly filled out within six months after the same shall have been sent to the applicant.

## ARTICLE II

### DUTIES OF GOVERNOR

It shall be the duty of the Governor to preside at all meetings of the Society and the Board of Assistants, and to perform such other duties as pertain to the chief officer of an organization.

## ARTICLE III

### DUTIES OF THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR

It shall be the duty of the Deputy Governor to exercise all the functions of the office of the Governor in the absence or disability of the Governor.

## ARTICLE IV

### DUTIES OF CAPTAIN

The Captain shall act as Marshall on all occasions of ceremony.

## ARTICLE V

### DUTIES OF ELDER

It shall be the duty of the Elder to officiate when called upon at any meeting of the Society. He shall be a regularly ordained minister of a Christian Church.

## ARTICLE VI

### DUTIES OF SECRETARY

The Secretary shall give due notice of all meetings of the Society and the Board of Assistants, and keep a record of the proceedings of such meetings. He shall notify new members of their election and keep a roll of the members of the Society. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and have charge of the seal and all documents belonging to the Society, and shall perform such other duties as the Society or his office may require.

## ARTICLE VII

### DUTIES OF TREASURER

The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Society. He shall collect all fees and dues and shall have charge of all disbursements under direction of the Board of Assistants. He shall keep an account of all receipts and disbursements, shall report the condition of the treasury at the regular meetings of the Board of Assistants, and shall make a detailed report at the annual meeting of the Society.

## ARTICLE VIII

### DUTIES OF HISTORIAN

The Historian shall examine and report upon all pedigree papers of applicants for membership. He shall keep a detailed record of all celebrations of the Society and file all documents, papers and speeches. He shall keep a record of all certificates signed by him and do any other work assigned him by the Board of Assistants.

## ARTICLE IX

### DUTIES OF SURGEON

The Surgeon shall have been duly admitted to the practice of medicine and shall be under the order of the Governor and Board of Assistants.

## ARTICLE X

### BOARD OF ASSISTANTS

The Board of Assistants shall have charge and direction of the affairs of the Society, subject in all respects to such instructions and limitations as may from time to time be prescribed by the Society. They shall fill vacancies among the officers for the balance of the term and shall appoint the following Standing Committees :

Membership, of five members ; Publication, of three members ; Auditing, of three members ; Room and Property, of five members ; Entertainment, of five members. The chairman of each Standing Committee shall be a member of the Board of Assistants, and the additional members may be selected from the members at large. Each Committee shall make a report, through its chairman, at each regular meeting of the Board of Assistants. The Membership Committee shall meet at such time and place as may be designated by its chairman, and shall consider and act upon all preliminary applications and report thereon to the Board of Assistants.

## ARTICLE XI

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business at all stated meetings of the Society shall be :

1st. Reading of Minutes.
2d. Communications.
3d. Reports of Officers.
4th. Reports of Committees.
5th. Unfinished Business.
6th. New Business.
7th. Election of Officers (at annual meetings).

## ARTICLE XII

### FEES AND DUES

The entrance fee shall be Five dollars ($5). The annual dues shall be Two dollars ($2), payable on the first day of January in each year. A member who shall remain in arrears for dues for three months after notice of his indebtedness has been mailed to him, directed to his last known address, may be dropped from the rolls by the Board of Assistants, and may be reinstated by said Board upon payment of all dues which would have accrued had he remained a member in good standing.

## ARTICLE XIII

### TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Assistants may, on a two-thirds vote, drop any member shown to be prejudicial to the Society, providing, however, he be given a month's notice of any charges filed and a hearing by said Board.

## ARTICLE XIV

### AMENDMENTS

Amendments, alterations and additions may be made to these by-laws in the same manner as povided for amendments and changes in the constitution of this Society.

This is to certify that the above constitution and by-laws were adopted by the SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA at its organization in the City of Washington, D. C., on the seventh day of April, A. D., 1898.

WILLIAM LOWREY MARSH,
*Governor.*

Attest:
HARRY WESTON VAN DYKE,
*Secretary.*

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